

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 05352 091722Z

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ACTION OIC-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 EB-07 OES-03 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00

OFA-01 DLOS-03 /047 W

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R 091710Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0015

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, IMCO, UK, UR

SUBJ: MARITIME SATELLITE CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 7016

1. IN ABSENCE OF MELLON, WE PASSED INFO FROM REFTEL TO PETER BULL, FCO, WHO WORKS FOR MELLON. BULL READ EXCERPTS OF FCO RECORD OF UK-SOVIET TALKS TO EMBOFF FROM WHICH IT APPEARED THAT ATSEROV, INITIALLY AT LEAST, MISREPRESENTED US POSITION ON TWO AGREEMENT APPROACH AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE. HOWEVER, IT WAS ALSO EVIDENT FROM BULL'S NOTES THAT ATSEROV, WHEN QUESTIONED MORE CLOSELY ABOUT US VIEWS, BACKED AWAY CONSIDERABLY FROM INITIAL STATEMENTS. BULL SAID IT WAS ALSO CLEAR FROM LATER REMARKS MADE TO MELLON BY KOLESNICHENKO, WHO WILL LEAD SOVIET DELEGATION, THAT SOVIETS EXPECT US TO PROPOSE TWO AGREEMENT FORMULA AT CONFERENCE. KOLESNICHENKO SAID SOVIETS WOULD OPPOSE SUCH A PROPOSAL BUT HE WAS STILL HOPEFUL IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE MEET US REQUIREMENTS WITH SIMPLE AGREEMENT. BULL IS AS PUZZLED AS WE ARE AS TO ATSEROV'S MOTIVES IN INITIALLY DISTORTING US POSITION BUT DESPITE REQUEST TO UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO CHECK ON ATSEROV'S STATEMENTS, BRITISH WERE NOT SERIOUSLY MISLED REGARDING

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PAGE 02 LONDON 05352 091722Z

OUR POSITION.

2. BULL SAID BRITISH AND FRENCH EMBASSIES WASHINGTON WERE ASKED, IN LATE MARCH, TO MAKE JOINT APPROACH TO DEPARTMENT TO OUTLINE UKG AND GOF POSITIONS FOR CONFERENCE FCO HAS NOT YET RECEIVED REPORT FROM UK EMBASSY TO CONFIRM THAT JOINT APPROACH HAS BEEN MADE. IF APPROACH NOT YET MADE, PLEASE ADVISE AND WE WILL ASK FCO TO JOG ITS EMBASSY AGAIN. BULL WAS RELUCTANT TO GIVE US DETAILS ON CONTENT OF UK POSITION PAPER PRIOR TO JOINT EMBASSY APPROACH BECAUSE OF FRENCH INVOLVEMENT.

3. WE TOLD BULL THAT WALDMANN AND O'NEILL WANTED TO MEET WITH MELLON BEFORE THE CONFERENCE AND WE SUGGESTED LUNCHEON MEETING AT EMBASSY APRIL 21 OR MEETING EARLY THAT AFTERNOON AT MELLON'S OFFICE. BULL SAID HE KNEW MELLON WOULD AGREE TO MEETING BUT WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL MELLON RETURNS TO OFFICE TO CONFIRM TIMING. BULL SAID MELLON ALSO CONSIDERING ASKING HEADS OF DELEGATIONS FROM US, USSR, NORWAY, FRANCE AND JAPAN TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH HIM AFTERNOON OF APRIL 22 BUT HE SAID HE WAS SURE MELLON WOULD WANT BILATERAL TALK WITH US BEFORE SUCH A MEETING. WE GATHERED THAT MELLON ALSO PLANS BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH SOVIETS AND WITH JAPANESE AND PERHAPS OTHERS IN TWO DAYS BEFORE CONFERENCE.

4. WE HAVE TENTATIVELY FIXED APPOINTMENT FOR WALDMANN AND O'NEILL WITH SEC GEN IMCO AT 1030 APRIL 21. THIS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION WHEN SRIVASTAVA RETURNS FROM LOS GENEVA.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, MARITIME MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON05352
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750124-0223
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750468/aaaackad.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OIC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 7016
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <17 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARITIME SATELLITE CONFERENCE
TAGS: ETEL, UK, UR, IMCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006